

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Three East Moline Residents Charged with Methamphetamine Conspiracy**

Rock Island, IL- The United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, Rodger A. Heaton, announced that a federal grand jury today returned an indictment charging three East Moline, Illinois residents with participating in a methamphetamine manufacturing conspiracy.

The indictment charges Joshua Allen McGuire, age 22, and Kristin Ann Kuehl, age 22, both of 2348 6<sup>th</sup> Street Court, East Moline, Illinois, and Timothy Lee Lorincz, age 29, of 179 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue, East Moline, Illinois, with conspiring to manufacture, distribute, and possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine. The indictment alleges the three conspired together and with others to manufacture methamphetamine from January 2002 to about June 2004.

According to a criminal complaint filed in the U.S. District Court in Rock Island on January 30, 2006, the charges result from evidence gathered through a historical investigation that included the execution of search warrants and the interviews of already-convicted methamphetamine manufacturers who are cooperating in the investigation. According to the complaint, witnesses allege that McGuire, Kuehl, and Lorincz participated in the clandestine manufacturing of methamphetamine in East Moline and elsewhere, the obtaining of pseudoephedrine pills, anhydrous ammonia, and other precursor materials for the meth-making process, and the distribution of methamphetamine in the Quad Cities and elsewhere.

The investigation is being conducted by the Rock Island Police Department, Henry County Sheriff's Department, the Quad City Metropolitan Enforcement Group, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sara Darrow of the Rock Island Branch of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of Illinois.

If convicted, the defendants each face a statutory mandatory-minimum term of 10 years in prison and up to life imprisonment. However, if a defendant has a prior felony drug conviction, the mandatory-minimum penalty increases to at least 20 years imprisonment. Upon conviction the defendants also face a fine of up to \$250,000.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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